

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CRAXI FOLLOWERS WIN AT PSI REGIONAL CONGRESSES IN
TUSCANY AND EMILIA-ROMAGNA.

1. AT SEPARATE PSI REGIONAL CONGRESSES, BOTH TUSCANY AND EMILIA-ROMAGNA SOCIALISTS GAVE STRONG SUPPORT TO THE CRAXI/SIGNORILE TICKET BY ELECTING TO THE PARTY'S NATIONAL CONGRESS 28 AND 37 DELEGATES RESPECTIVELY, WHICH REPRESENT 72 AND 91.8 PER CENT OF THE VOTES IN EACH OF THE REGIONS. FOLLOWERS OF FRANCESCO DE MARTINO, FORMER PARTY SECRETARY, AND OF THE OTHER MINORITY FACTIONS ALTOGETHER ELECTED 12 DELEGATES IN TUSCANY AND ONLY 3 IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA. THE TWO REGIONAL CONGRESSES TOOK PLACE IN FLORENCE FOR TUSCANY AND IN REGGIO-EMILIA FOR EMILIA-ROMAGNA OVER THE MARCH 17-19 WEEKEND.

2. IN BOTH REGIONS, THE STRONGEST AMONG THE 3 MINORITY FACTIONS WAS THAT OF DE MARTINO, WHICH ELECTED 9 DELEGATES IN TUSCANY AND 2 IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA. AT THE SAME MEETINGS, THE TWO CONGRSSES ALSO ELECTED THE NEW REGIONAL DIRECTORATES. THE PRESENT REGIONAL SECRETARIES, PAOLO BENELLI IN TUSCANY AND PAOLO PEDRAZZOLI IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA, ARE EXPECTED TO BE REELECTED WHEN THE DIRECTORATES MEET.

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3. THE DISCUSSION, IN BOTH CONGRESSES, FOCUSED MAINLY ON THE "SOCIALIST PROJECT FOR THE 80'S" WHICH IS THE PARTY'S POLITICAL PROGRAM PREPARED BY PARTY EXPERTS AND APPROVED BY THE CRAXI/SIGNORILE TICKET, AND WHICH IS INTENDED TO BECOME THE PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY ONCE THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS IS RESOLVED. THE PROJECT, WHICH IS THE PLATFORM FOR THE PARTY'S FUTURE POLITICAL ACTIVITY, IS BASED ON A DIFFERENTIATION OF

POLICIES FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND REPRESENTS AN ALTERNATEEEIVE
TO A DC GOVERNMENT AND PROGRAM. DURING THE CONGRESSES, THE
"PROJECT" WAS CRITICIZED BY THE NEW LEFT FACTION LED BY MICHELE
ACHILLI, DEPUTY FROM MILAN, WHICH FAVORS AN ALLIANCE WITH THE
PCI (THIS FACTION OBTAINED 3.5% OF THE VOTES IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA
AND 6.5% IN TUSCANY). THE DE MARTINO FACTION, THE SECOND LARGEST
FACTION IN THE PARTY ALSO SLIGHTLY CRITICIZED THE "PROJECT" FOR
BEING TO MILDLY MARXIST.

4. COMMENT: THESE PSI REGIONAL CONGRESSES CLEARLY SUFFERED
BECAUSE OF THE MORO KIDNAPPING WHICH, TOGETHER WITH THE ASSURED
LARGE VICTORY OF THE CRAXI /SIGNORILE TICKET, DIMINISHED
INTEREST IN BOTH EVENTS. GORDON

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